座敷童

ZASHIKI-WARASHI

Yousuke Takahashi

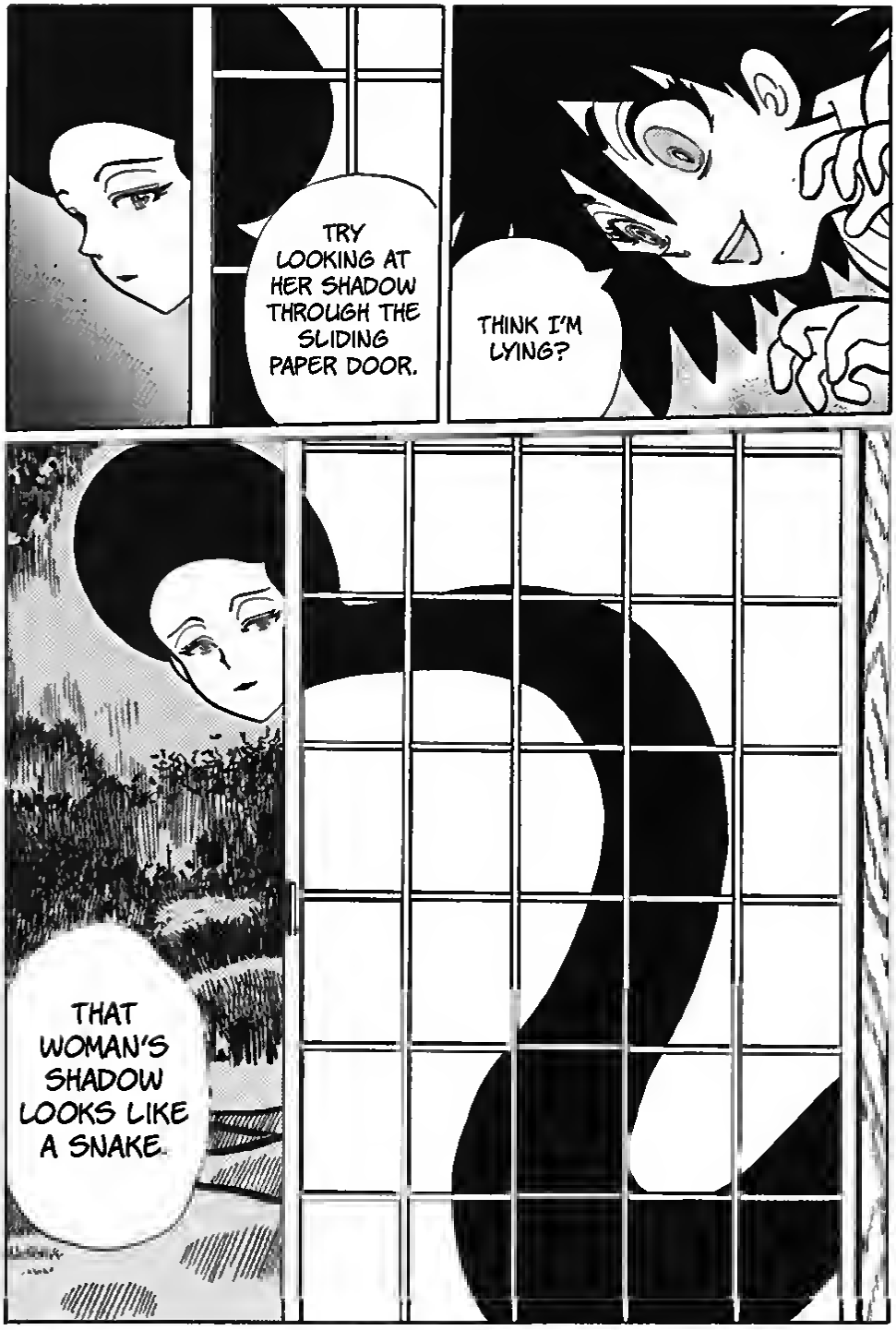
HAS YOUR FATHER GONE OUT FOR THE DAY?
OH MY, REIJIRO-SAN.

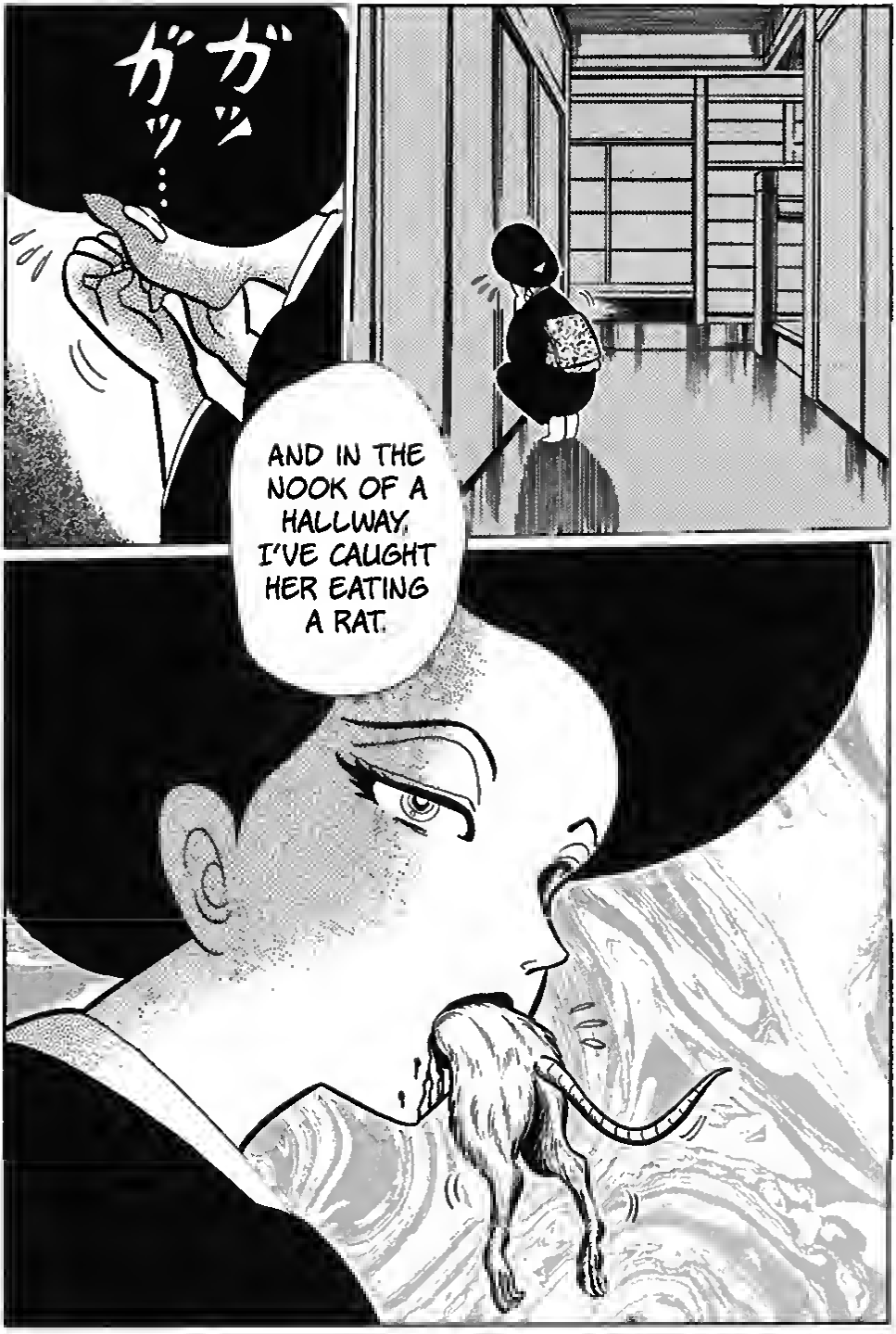
MISS.
I'VE BEEN RIGHT HERE ALL ALONG.
AAH... HOW LONG IS IT GOING TO BE BEFORE YOU CALL ME MOTHER?
I'M GOING TO END UP BECOMING SAD.
IT'S TOO PAINFUL AND MISERABLE FOR ME.
MY MOTHER IS NO LONGER WITH ME.
BUT YOU'RE MISS TO ME.

I'VE GOTTEN MARRIED TO YOUR FATHER THOUGH.
THAT MEANS FOR YOU, I'M NOW YOUR MOTHER.
YOU'RE WRONG.
YOU AREN'T MY MOTHER.
YOU AREN'T EVEN HUMAN.
YOU'RE A SNAKE THAT DISGUISED ITSELF AS A HUMAN, AREN'T YOU!!
YOU TRICKED MY FATHER INTO MARRIAGE!

THE ZASHIKI-WARASHI!
WHO TOLD YOU A THING LIKE THAT?
OH MY, YOU MEAN I'M A SNAKE?
LAST NIGHT, A ZASHIKI-WARASHI CAME TO ME AND TOLD ME ALL ABOUT IT.

I'M A ZASHIKI WARASHI WHO HAS HAUNTED THIS HOUSE SINCE LONG AGO.
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU DON'T KNOW, SO I'LL TELL YOU.
INDEED, IT IS THE TRUTH. YOUR FATHER HAS BEEN DECEIVED.
THE TRUTH IS, THE WOMAN YOUR FATHER MARRIED IS ACTUALLY A SNAKE.


TRY LOOKING AT HER SHADOW THROUGH THE SLIDING PAPER DOOR.
THINK I'M LYING?
THAT WOMAN'S SHADOW LOOKS LIKE A SNAKE.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AND IN THE NOOK OF A HALLWAY, I'VE CAUGHT HER EATING A RAT.

I TRIED PEEKING AT HER WHEN SHE ENTERED THE BATH.
ON HER WHITE BACK, I WAS ABLE TO SEE HER SCALES GLISTENING.
WATCH OUT! WATCH OUT!!
YOUR FATHER TOO.
BEFORE LONG SHE'LL STICK OUT HER TONGUE AND SWALLOW YOU RIGHT UP.

YES, OF COURSE.
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WHAT WOULD POSSESS YOU TO SAY A LIE LIKE THAT!
WHAT, HOW RIDICULOUS!
IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN PLEASE CALL THIS SO-CALLED ZASHIKI-WARASHI HERE.
ZASHIKI-WARASHI
PLEASE COME ON OUT!
ZASHIKI-WARASHI! ZASHIKI-WARASHI!
THAT'S STRANGE...
WHERE DID SHE GO OFF TO?

THAT'S BECAUSE SHE WAS NEVER THERE FROM THE VERY BEGINNING.
SO SHE WON'T COME OUT.
HOHOHO...
ZASHIKI-WARASHI~~~!

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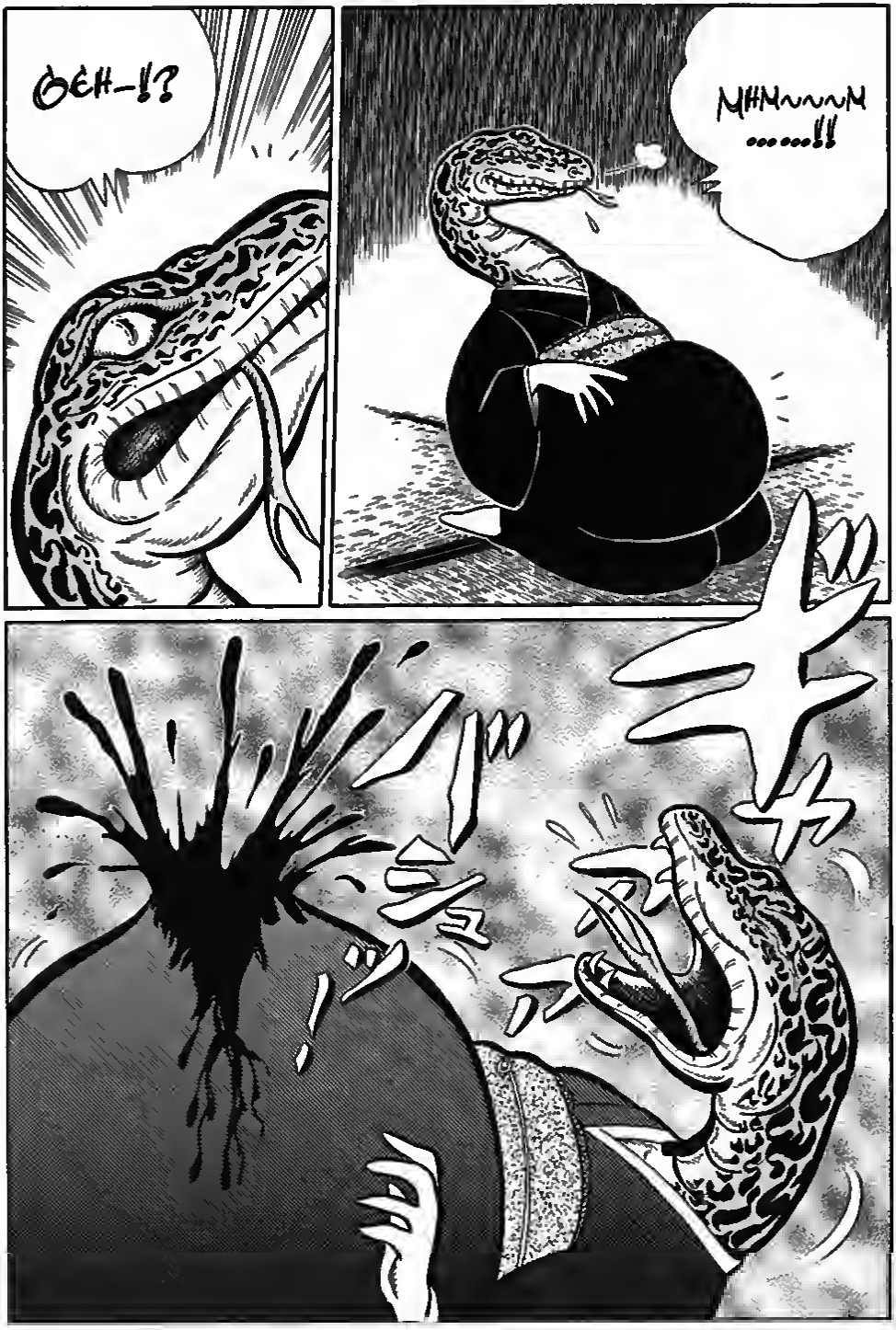
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I'M THE ZASHIKI-WARASHI!!
YEAH... YOU'RE RIGHT, FATHER.
MOTHER MUST BE WORRIED SICK.
WE'RE AWFULLY LATE.

AH
REIJIRO, GO AND FIND HER.
WHERE IS YOUR MOTHER?
THERE'S A DEAD SNAKE.
OKAY.
FATHER...
I'M PRETTY SURE MOTHER ISN'T GOING TO COME BACK.
I THINK SO TOO.
YEAH